

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A system for clearing the inside of a wellbore, comprising:
an anchor adapted to be positioned within the wellbore;
an agitator coupled to the anchor, the agitator operable to move relative to the
5 interior surface of the wellbore, the movement of the agitator operable to at least
partially eliminate a restriction to a flow of minerals or other resources in the
wellbore;
a linkage adapted to couple the agitator to the anchor; and
a drive mechanism coupled to the agitator and operable move the agitator
10 relative to the interior surface of the wellbore.
2. The system of Claim 1, wherein movement of the agitator operable to
at least partially eliminate a restriction to a flow of minerals or other resources in the
wellbore comprises moving the agitator to mix fines contained within the wellbore
15 with fluid contained in the wellbore to facilitate removal of the fines from the
wellbore.
3. The system of Claim 2, wherein the agitator comprises a plurality of
extensions operable to facilitate mixing the fines with the fluid contained in the
20 wellbore.
4. The system of Claim 1, wherein movement of the agitator operable to
at least partially eliminate a restriction to a flow of minerals or other resources in the
wellbore comprises moving the agitator to facilitate movement of solids within the
25 wellbore.
5. The system of Claim 4, wherein the agitator comprises a plurality of
extensions operable to facilitate moving the solids contained in the wellbore.

6. The system of Claim 1, wherein the agitator comprises:
one or more agitator portions; and
one or more expansion joints coupling the agitator portions and operable to
allow relative independent movement of each agitator portion.

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7. The system of Claim 1, wherein the wellbore comprises an articulated
wellbore.

8. The system of Claim 1, wherein the wellbore comprises a pipe.

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9. The system of Claim 1, wherein the anchor is positioned in the
wellbore using a workstring adapted to be removably coupled to the anchor.

10. The system of Claim 1, wherein the agitator is selected from the group
consisting of a belt, a wire, a cable, a chain, a corkscrew-shaped rod, a corkscrew-
shaped tube, a helical-shaped rod, and a helical-shaped tube.

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11. The system of Claim 1, wherein the linkage comprises a pulley
operable to rotate in response to movement of the agitator.

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12. The system of Claim 1, wherein the linkage comprises a spring
coupled to the anchor, the spring adapted to facilitate longitudinal motion of the
agitator relative to the surface of the wellbore.

13. The system of Claim 1, wherein the linkage comprises a joint operable
to rotate relative to the anchor, the joint operable to facilitate the rotation of the
agitator in the wellbore.

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14. The system of Claim 1, wherein the anchor is secured within the
wellbore using teeth coupled to the anchor, the teeth adapted to be extended from the
anchor to engage the interior surface of the wellbore.

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15. The system of Claim 1, wherein the anchor is secured within the wellbore by inflating the anchor to fill at least a portion of the wellbore.

16. The system of Claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism comprises a
5 hand-operated crank.

17. The system of Claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism comprises a motor.

18. The system of Claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism is operable to
10 rotate the agitator relative to the interior surface of the wellbore.

19. The system of Claim 1, wherein the drive mechanism is operable to move the agitator longitudinally relative to the interior surface of the wellbore.

20. A method for clearing the inside of a wellbore, comprising:
inserting a wellbore clearing system into the wellbore, the wellbore clearing
system comprising an anchor adapted to be positioned within the wellbore, an agitator
operable to be moved relative to the interior surface of the wellbore, and a linkage
5 coupling the agitator to the anchor;
securing the anchor within the wellbore; and
moving the agitator relative to the interior surface of the wellbore, the
movement of the agitator operable to at least partially eliminate a restriction to a flow
of minerals or other resources in the wellbore.

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21. The method of Claim 20, wherein moving the agitator to at least
partially eliminate a restriction to a flow of minerals or other resources in the wellbore
comprises moving the agitator to mix fines contained within the wellbore with fluid
contained in the wellbore to facilitate removal of the fines from the wellbore.

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22. The method of Claim 21, wherein the agitator comprises a plurality of
extensions operable to facilitate mixing the fines with the fluid contained in the
wellbore.

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23. The method of Claim 21, further comprising removing the fluid/fine
mixture from the wellbore.

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24. The method of Claim 23, wherein the fluid/fine mixture is removed
from the wellbore through fluid flow of the fluid mixed with the fines from a
subterranean zone.

25. The method of Claim 23, wherein the fluid/fine mixture is removed
from the wellbore through the pumping of water mixed with the fines from a
subterranean zone.

26. The method of Claim 20, wherein moving the agitator to at least partially eliminate a restriction to a flow of minerals or other resources in the wellbore comprises moving the agitator to facilitate movement of solids within the wellbore.

5 27. The method of Claim 26, wherein the agitator comprises a plurality of extensions operable to facilitate movement of the solids contained in the wellbore.

28. The method of Claim 20, wherein the agitator comprises:
one or more agitator portions; and
10 one or more expansion joints coupling the agitator portions and operable to allow relative independent movement of each agitator portion.

29. The method of Claim 20, further comprising:
removably coupling a workstring to the anchor; and
15 positioning the anchor within the wellbore using the workstring.

30. The method of Claim 29, further comprising disengaging the workstring from the anchor once the anchor is secured within the wellbore and removing the workstring from the wellbore.

20 31. The method of Claim 29, further comprising re-coupling the workstring to the anchor and removing the anchor and agitator from the wellbore.

32. The method of Claim 20, wherein the wellbore comprises an
25 articulated wellbore.

33. The method of Claim 20, wherein the wellbore comprises a pipe.

34. The method of Claim 20, wherein securing the anchor within the
30 wellbore comprises extending teeth from the body of the anchor, the teeth adapted to engage the interior surface of the wellbore.

35. The method of Claim 20, wherein securing the anchor within the wellbore comprises inflating the anchor to fill at least a portion of the wellbore.

5 36. The method of Claim 20, wherein the agitator is selected from the group consisting of a belt, a wire, a cable, a chain, a corkscrew-shaped rod, a corkscrew-shaped tube, a helical-shaped rod, and a helical-shaped tube.

37. The method of Claim 20, wherein the linkage comprises a spring coupled to the anchor, the spring adapted to facilitate longitudinal motion of the
10 agitator relative to the surface of the wellbore.

38. The method of Claim 20, wherein the linkage comprises a joint operable to rotate relative to the anchor, the joint operable to facilitate the rotation of the agitator in the wellbore.

15 39. The method of Claim 20, wherein the linkage comprises a pulley adapted to rotate in response to movement of the agitator.

40. The method of Claim 20, wherein the agitator is moved using a drive
20 mechanism.

41. The method of Claim 40, wherein the drive mechanism comprises a hand-operated crank.

25 42. The method of Claim 40, wherein the drive mechanism comprises a motor.

43. The method of Claim 40, wherein the drive mechanism is operable to rotate the agitator relative to the interior surface of the wellbore.

30 44. The method of Claim 40, wherein the drive mechanism is operable to move the agitator longitudinally relative to the interior surface of the wellbore.

45. A system for clearing the inside of a wellbore, comprising:

a first means operable to move relative to the interior surface of the wellbore, the movement of the first means operable to at least partially eliminate a restriction to a flow of minerals or other resources in the wellbore;

5 a second means operable to anchor the first means within the wellbore, the second means coupled to the first means;

a third means operable to couple the first means to the second means, the third means adapted to allow the first means to be moved relative to the interior surface of the wellbore; and

10 a fourth means operable to move the first means relative to the interior surface of the wellbore, the fourth means coupled to the first means.

46. A system for clearing the inside of an articulated wellbore of a dual-well system, comprising:

an anchor adapted to be positioned within the wellbore, the anchor comprising teeth adapted to be extended from the anchor to engage the interior surface of the wellbore to secure the anchor within the wellbore;

an agitator coupled to the anchor, the agitator operable to be moved relative to the interior surface of the wellbore, the movement of the agitator operable to at least partially eliminate a restriction to a flow of minerals or other resources in the wellbore;

a linkage adapted to couple the agitator to the anchor and to allow the agitator to move relative to the interior surface of the wellbore; and

a drive mechanism coupled to the agitator and operable move the agitator relative to the interior surface of the wellbore.